## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PDEV, GB

SUBJ: GABONESE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

- 1. 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF GABONESE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATED AUGUST 17 IN KOULAMOUTOU IN OGOOUE-LOLO PROVINCE, IN KEEPING WITH PRESIDENT BONGO'S POLICY OF USING INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS TO THROW SPOTLIGHT ON THE INTERIOR.
- 2. MFA TELEPHONED ALL MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS AUGUST 14 INFORMING US WE WOULD NOT BE INVITED TO KOULAMOUTOU AS THERE WAS "NO SPACE." AMBASSADORS OF FRANCE, CONGO AND ZAIRE ATTENDED KOULAMOUTOU CEREMONIES BECAUSE OF PRESENCE DISTINGUISHED VISITORS: ABELIN, MINISTER OF COOPERATION FROM FRANCE; PRIME MINISTER LOPES FROM CONGO; AND ZAIRE PRESIDENT MOBUTU. LATTER WAS LAST-MINUTE NO SHOW.
- 3. DETAILS OF CEREMONIES AND FULL PROGRAM FOLLOW VIA AIRGRAM.
  COUNTRYMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

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